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SOURCE Der Tagesspiegel.

## RED LOOTINGS BLEED EAST GERMAN INDUSTRY

Conservative estimates place German losses through Soviet plundering operations, as of 1945, at 2 billion dollars. As the result of dismantlings, 2,700 plants with working facilities for 868,000 persons were destroyed, or deprived of their equipment, which led to a 75-percent production decrease, compared with 1944.

The total economic plant was reduced by 55 percent or 3.16 billion dollars. The 126 key industrial plants which were converted into Soviet corporations (SAG) have a minimum value of one billion dollars. This represents the following percentages of the respective industries: coal mining, 34; power, 40; fuel, 82; metallurgy, 34; machine building, 34; chemicals, 52; building materials, 10; paper, 10; and precision instruments and optics, 25.

Between 1945 and 1950, Soviet Zone Germany has had to raise a total of 11.3 billion dollars for reparations payments and occupation costs, not including indeterminate contributions to the USSR.

The following statistics compiled by Professor Gleitze show to what degree Red Army looting, and seizure of goods and means of production by the Soviet Military Administration and representatives of the USSR Foreign Trade Ministry have played havoc with East German industry in 1945 and 1946.

	Gross Production (in % of 1936)	
	1944	1946
Metallurgical, machine-building, and electrical industries, precision mechanics, stones and earths	242	23
Mining, chemical, cellulose, paper, and power industries	152	62
Light industry, lumber, textile, and food and beverage industries	88	40

Another serious blow to East German industry was the deportation to the USSR of 15,000 German scientists, engineers, and technicians, especially in the armaments industry.

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